

Dorchester Friday Evig
July 2. 1863

My dear Mr. Garrison

I have tried all day to get a moment to go & see you, failing that, I cannot go to bed, without writing to offer you my heartfelt congratulations on the final consummation of the great purpose of your life. In common with all who ~~who~~ feel, and gratefully acknowledge your early uncompromising advocacy of this great act of national justice & human good, I hasten to anticipate the verdict of impartial history, and thank you for the proclamation which makes our hearts glad today.

I wonder at myself for the

that for posthumous fame I would rather be William
Lloyd Garrison than any man of the century. And now to
add to that the inexpressible happiness of seeing, of living
to enjoy the actual fulfillment of a life long labor
in so grand a result, is almost more than even you
had a right to expect. Words seem so cold & poor. I do not
mean to mince more than to thank you for the victory
you have achieved & to congratulate you on the achievement.
It is right to celebrate the day, & know no better way than this.
Please accept my congratulations my gratitude

and my warmest sympathy

I believe me sincerely & gratefully

Yrs (Rev.) Charles E. Hodge

Calmness with which I have borne
the actual announcement of an
Event for which I have prayed, & for
which, - the greatest regret of my
life is, - that I could not also have
worked more zealously.

All private griefs, discouragements
disappointments, trials of every kind
are swallowed up in the great deep
joy of this Emancipation.

I know there is much yet remaining
to be done, much wicked ignorance
prejudice to be overcome, much for
all of us to do, for the elevation of
the long suffering race, & to make
his Emancipation the blessing Providence
designs it to be for them, - But
there is yet the great fact to
be grateful for. I envy you
your feelings. I have always said

